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ABSTRACT

The 1973 fiscal year activities of the Federal Library Committee (FLC) are briefly discussed in this annual report. The report begins with background information on the FLC since its establishment in 1965. The three areas emphasized during the fiscal year, which are reported upon, are: the reorganization and functions of the FLC as reported in the June 4, 1973 "Federal Register;" the arrangement with the Ohio College Library Center (OCLC) to provide federal libraries with on line access to the OCLC data base; and the qualifications rating scale for the Civil Service Commission GS1410 (librarian) series applications developed by the Task Force on Recruitment. Also included are lists of the research projects of the FLC, both funded and pending, and the year's publications issued by, for, or in cooperation with the FLC. (Previous FLC Annual Reports are available as ED041606, 051840, and 065143.) (SJ)

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FEDERAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20540

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ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 1973

Frank Kurt Cylke
Executive Secretary

July 6, 1973

PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP—Library of Congress (Librarian of Congress, Chairman), National Agricultural Library, National Library of Medicine, Department of State, Department of the Treasury, Department of Defense, Department of Justice, Department of the Interior, Department of Commerce, Department of Labor, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Transportation

ROTATING MEMBERSHIP, 1971-73—Federal Communications Commission, General Services Administration, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Science Foundation, Supreme Court of the United States, Veterans Administration.

OBSERVERS—Office of Management and Budget and Office of Science and Technology of the Executive Office of the President, Library of Congress, Bureau of Libraries and Educational Technology of the Office of Education of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

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FEDERAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 1973

BACKGROUND

The Federal Library Committee was established in 1965 by the Library of Congress and the Office of Management and Budget (formerly Bureau of the Budget), for the purpose of concentrating the intellectual resources present in the Federal library and library related information community:

To achieve better utilization of library resources and facilities.

To provide more effective planning, development, and operation of Federal libraries.

To promote an optimum exchange of experience, skill, and resources.

Membership on the Committee includes representatives of the three National Libraries, and all the Cabinet agencies. Six independent agencies are elected every two years. In addition, there are five official observers. Guest observers are appointed from time to time.

To achieve the three noted goals a Federal Library Committee Secretariat was established and a Task Force/Sub-Committee/Work Group operating method selected for implementation. Emphasis was placed upon the acquisition of R&D grant and contract funds. Work, for the most part, was pursued by the Secretariat, by independent individuals, and by firms under the direction of specific work groups.

Secretariat efforts and the work groups were organized to conform to the six authorized functional approaches:

To consider policies and problems relating to Federal libraries.

To evaluate existing Federal library programs and resources.

To determine priorities among library issues requiring attention.

To examine the organization and policies for acquiring, preserving, and making information available.

To study the need for and potential of technological innovation in library practices.

To study library budgeting and staffing problems, including the recruiting, education, training, and remuneration of librarians.

Initial funding support was received in the form of two grants, totaling $97,650, from the Council on Library Resources.

ACTIVITY

A full action program was implemented by the Secretariat and work groups. Three areas were emphasized reorganization, automation, and education/training.

Reorganization

On Monday, June 4, 1973, the Federal Register (FR Doc. 73-11083) carried a statement regarding the reorganization and functions of the Federal Library Committee. The statement was developed by the Federal

Library Committee and implemented by the Librarian of Congress with concurrence of the Office of Management and Budget.

The statement read:

"LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

FEDERAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Reorganization and Functions

June 1, 1973.

In recognition of the need for continued cooperation and concerted action the Federal Library Committee is hereby reorganized.

Membership of the Committee.--The permanent members of the Federal Library Committee will be the Librarian of Congress, the Director of the National Agricultural Library, the Director of the National Library of Medicine, representatives from each of the other executive departments, and delegates from the Atomic Energy Commission, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, the Smithsonian Institution, the Supreme Court of the United States, the U.S. Information Agency, the Veterans' Administration, and the Office of Presidential Libraries. Six members will be selected on a rotation basis by the permanent members of the committee from independent agencies, boards, committees, and commissions. These rotating members will serve 2-year terms. Ten regional members shall be selected on a rotating basis by the permanent members of the committee to represent Federal libraries following the geographic pattern developed by the Federal Regional Councils. These rotating regional members will serve 2-year terms. The 10 regional members, one from each of the 10 Federal regions, shall be voting members. In addition to the permanent representative from DOD, one non-voting member shall be selected from each of the three services (U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force). These service members, who will serve for 2 years, will be selected by the permanent Department of Defense member from a slate provided by the Federal Library Committee. The membership in each service shall be rotated equitably among the special service, technical, and academic and school libraries in that service. DOD shall continue to have one voting member in the committee. The DOD representative may poll the three service members for their opinions before reaching a decision concerning his vote. A representative of the Office of Management and Budget, designated by the Budget Director, and others appointed by the Chairman, will meet with the committee as observers.

Designation of members.--Representatives of departments and agencies shall be designated by the Secretary of the department or head of the agency concerned. Permanent and rotating members shall be authorized to speak for the department or agency on library matters.

The Chairman of the Committee shall be the Librarian of Congress. The Chairman may make provision for another member of the committee, with the consent of the members, to act temporarily as Chairman. The Chairman may name other observers and may invite representatives of other agencies not represented on the committee to attend meetings or parts of meetings of the committee concerned with matters of interest to the agency and may invite other persons to attend as appropriate. The committee shall meet regularly once each month, and additional meetings may be called by the Chairman as necessary. In addition, the Chairman shall convene librarians of all agencies from time to time to consider and discuss common problems.

The Executive Director shall be appointed by the Chairman to pursue the work of the committee as appropriate.

Functions of the committee.--The committee shall on a Government-wide basis (1) consider policies and problems relating to Federal libraries, (2) evaluate existing Federal library programs and resources, (3) determine priorities among library issues requiring attention, (4) examine the organization and policies for acquiring, preserving, and making information available, (5) study the need for and potential of technological innovation in library practices, (6) study library budgeting and staffing problems, including the recruiting, education, training, and remuneration of librarians.

Within these areas the committee shall recommend policies and other measures (1) to achieve better utilization of Federal library resources and facilities, (2) to provide more effective planning, development, and operation of Federal libraries, (3) to promote optimum exchange of experience, skill and resources among Federal libraries, and as a consequence, (4) to promote more effective service to the Nation at large.

The committee shall consider and recommend measures for the implementation of Federal library policies and programs, and shall serve as a forum for the communication of information among Federal librarians and library users.

Termination.--Continuance of the committee shall be subject to biennial review."

Automation

On June 29, 1973, the Federal Library Committee contracted with the Ohio College Library Center to experiment with interfacing and

connecting the OCLC data base and existing supporting systems to a national automated telecommunications service system which will provide user federal libraries, with on-line access to the OCLC data base through local phone connections, and which will provide each user library with on-line cataloging data and printed catalog cards in individualized formats.

The Ohio College Library Center has agreed to provide, through the engagement of a qualified and responsible operator of an international telecommunications network, local telephone connections to at least 40 metropolitan locations for 30 simultaneous federal user libraries throughout the United States, for the purpose of making on-line access to the data base possible.

The Ohio College Library Center has agreed to complete the necessary hook-ups, program interface, and establish an environment for on-line operating terminals at potential user libraries as soon as possible, but no later than December 31, 1973.

It is anticipated that approximately 25 federal libraries will participate.

Education/Training

The Task Force on Recruitment developed a qualifications rating scale for use with Civil Service Commission GS 1410 (librarian) series applications. The scale was accepted and implemented. The group also developed a self-coding scheme for use by the Civil Service Commission

in expanding the GS 1410 register. Function, subject speciality, language capability, and type of library were considered. In addition, the Civil Service Commission's announcement was revised and issued.

The Education Task Force held its fourth Executive Workshop in San Francisco, California in April 1973.

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RESEARCH PROJECTS

Funded

Title	Cost
Cooperative Agreement Between the Federal Library Committee and the Ohio College Library Center to Experiment with Processing	$71,940[1]/

Pending

An Annotated List of Original Source Documents Pertaining to the American Revolution Held by Federal Agencies	$63,650
Proposal to Investigate the Capability of Federal Library Resources to Meet the Needs and Requirements of the Subject Areas Indicated by the Nation's Goals and Priorities	$81,389
TOTAL	$216,979

[1]Funds contributed by 11 federal libraries.

PUBLICATIONS

Significant Items Issued By, For, or In Cooperation With The Federal Library Committee

Henderson, Madeline B., ed., Interactive Bibliographic Systems. U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D.C., April 1973. 205p.

The proceedings of a forum held at Gaithersburg, Maryland October 4-5, 1971. Sponsored by Federal Library Committee, Committee on Scientific and Technical Information of the Federal Council for Science and Technology, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, and the National Bureau of Standards.

_____., Automation and The Federal Library Community. Federal Library Committee, Washington, D.C., June 1973. 49p.

From June 1970 to July 1971 an intensive investigation was undertaken of the federal library community and its involvement with library automation. The project, initiated by Federal Library Committee's Task Force on Automation of Library Operations, was supported by the U.S. Office of Education and conducted by the System Development Corporation. This report summarizes and abstracts the results of that investigation and highlights the resulting picture drawn of the federal library community. Tables and graphs from the original report and handbook are reproduced in this summary and are referred to the original documents.